



Department of Veterans Affairs

ORIGINAL OR AMENDED DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION AWARD (NOTE: The Items Checked Below Apply)

You have been awarded Dependency and Indemnity Compensation as explained below. An initial or adjustment check will be mailed soon. Thereafter, checks will be delivered at the beginning of each month for the preceding month subject to the conditions explained on the reverse side of this form.

- ☐ 1. The effective date of your award is:
- ☐ a. The day following the date of the veteran's death, if death occurred in service, with payment from the first day of the month following the date of death.
- ☐ b. The first day of the month in which the veteran dies, with payment from the first day of the month following the month of death.
- ☐ c. The date of receipt of your claim if received more than one year following the date of the veteran's death, with payment from the first day of the month following the date of receipt of the claim.
- ☐ d.

- ☐ 2. The amount of payment for the month of the veteran's death reflects his or her monthly rate of VA benefits. This rate is payable for the month of death.
- ☐ a. Payments for succeeding months are based on the veteran's pay grade while in service.
- ☐ b. Payments for succeeding months have been authorized at a monthly rate which has been determined by Congress.
- ☐ c. Because the veteran was rated totally disabled for a service-connected disability for a continuous period of at least eight years immediately preceding death AND you were married to the veteran for those same eight years, your monthly rate has been increased to include an additional allowance.

- ☐ 3. To avoid delay, payment is being made at the minimum rate. Service pay information has been requested from the Service Department. If their reply indicates you are entitled to a greater award, action will be taken and you will be notified.

- ☐ 4. Although the veteran's death was not the result of a service-related disability, benefits are awarded as if death were service-connected since, at the time of his/her death the veteran was totally disabled from service-connected disabilities and had been for the required statutory period.

NOTE: Money or property received as a result of a claim or legal action for damages based on the death of the veteran will affect payment of this benefit. You must report proceeds resulting from any claim or legal action to your nearest VA office immediately. If you have questions or need information on the location of the nearest VA regional office you may call 1-800-827-1000.

- ☐ 5. In order to accord you more favorable consideration, the income you received before you became entitled to Dependency and Indemnity Compensation has not been included in determining your annual income. Your benefits are based on income not in excess of \$ _____ from the date of entitlement to the end of the year, which represents \$ _____ on an annual basis. Payment from January 1 of the following year will be based on your anticipated annual income.

- ☐ 6. Your award of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation has been amended for the reason(s) checked below:
- ☐ a. Basic pay data received from the service department show your entitlement to a greater amount of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation
- ☐ b. Your payments will be changed to \$ _____ monthly from _____ because your annual rate of income for VA purposes will be \$ _____ from that date.
- ☐ c. You are in need of aid and attendance based upon your status as a patient in a nursing home. You must notify us immediately when you are no longer a nursing home patient.
- ☐ d. You are in need of regular aid and attendance.
- ☐ e. You are entitled to additional allowance because you are permanently housebound due to disability.
- ☐ f.

- ☐ 7. VA Form 21-674, Request for Approval of School Attendance, must be completed and returned to VA to claim the additional Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for (Name(s) of Student(s)) _____ schoolchild(ren) between the ages of 18 and 23.

8. VA Form 21-674b, School Attendance Report, must be completed, and returned to VA within 60 days from the date (Name of Student) _____ begins the course. If it is not returned, benefits payable because of school attendance must be discontinued.

- ☐ 9.

Please notify this office immediately, over your signature, of any change of address, marital or dependency status.

Encl. VA Forms: ☐ 21-674 ☐ 21-674b

CONDITIONS AFFECTING RIGHT TO PAYMENTS

A. SURVIVING SPOUSE

1. Payment of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation to a surviving spouse will be discontinued upon remarriage or death. If you remarry, do not endorse any check made payable to you as the veteran's surviving spouse. All such checks should be returned with a statement showing the date of remarriage so that payments may be properly adjusted.

2. If you remarry and that marital relationship terminates, the law generally prohibits VA from reinstating benefits eligibility in death pension benefits.

3. Entitlement to DIC may again be established should a subsequent remarriage be terminated by death, divorce or annulment. Also, if the surviving spouse ceases living with another person and holding herself or himself openly to the public as that person's spouse, entitlement to DIC may be restored. However, entitlement to DIC on this basis does **NOT** reestablish entitlement to Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance, Loan Guaranty benefits, or health and medical care benefits under CHAMPVA.

4. A higher rate of benefits is payable each month to a surviving spouse who is a patient in a nursing home or otherwise determined to be in need of regular aid and attendance or who is permanently housebound due to disability.

B. PARENTS

1. The following conditions affect the rate of payment to or for parents. You must notify VA promptly of:

(a) The date of death of a parent or of his or her spouse,

(b) The date of remarriage of a parent

(c) The date when parents (or parent and spouse) became separated,

(d) The date when parents(or parent and spouse) who have separated began living together,

(e) Any increase or decrease in income of you or your spouse, whether living together or separated.

2. An additional amount is payable each month to parents who are patients in a nursing home or are otherwise determined to be in need of regular aid and attendance.

C. CHILD

1. Benefits may be paid for a child:

(a) Until the child becomes 18 years old,

(b) Until the child becomes 23 years old, if in school taking an approved course of instruction.

(c) Of any age who, before reaching 18, became physically incapable of self-support because of physical or mental defect.

2. Payment of benefits for a child will be terminated if the child marries.

D. PROMPT NOTICE

Failure to promptly notify VA of any condition affecting your right to continued payments may result in the discontinuance of your award retroactively, creating overpayment, subject to recovery.

E. PENALTY

The law provides severe penalties which include fine, imprisonment, or both for the fraudulent acceptance of any payment to which you are not entitled.

CHAMPVA -- HEALTH AND MEDICAL CARE BENEFITS

The unmarried surviving spouse or child of a veteran who dies as the result of a service-connected disability or who, at the time of death had a total disability, permanent in nature, resulting from a service-connected disability, may be entitled to medicare coverage under this program provided they are not entitled to care under CHAMPUS (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services) or Medicare. Application for this benefit may be made at the nearest VA health care facility. For additional information you may contact CHAMPVA at the Health Administration Eligibility Unit, P.O. Box, 65023, Denver Colorado 80206-9023. You may contact that office by calling 1-800-733-8387.

SURVIVORS' AND DEPENDENT'S EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE (Title 38 U.S.C. Chapter 35)

A. UNMARRIED SURVIVING SPOUSE

You may be entitled to educational benefits for a period up to 45 months in addition to the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation you are receiving. You will have a 10-year period in which to use these benefits. These benefits are not payable if you remarry. You can obtain additional information or an application for educational benefits by contacting the regional office where your records are located.

B. CHILD

Generally, a child who is age 18 and in school, (or his/her parent or guardian) may elect benefits under the program instead of the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payable on the child's behalf. The educational allowance is greater and the child's marital status is not a factor. This educational assistance generally will not be payable beyond the child's 26th birthday, although there are certain circumstances under which eligibility continues to a later date. You can obtain additional information by contacting the regional office where your records are located. If the child is under 18, further information will be automatically furnished before age 18.